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L115

C O N F I D E N T I A L

NotesTele (49)

OSLO 01694

Laser1:

INFO: PAS CONS

CXOSLO:

ACTION: P/E

INFO: RSO AMB DAO RAO ODC DCM

RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

DISSEMINATION: POLO

CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: DCM:CWWEBSTER

DRAFTED: POL\ECON:HAMMERMIKE

CLEARED: DAO:JSTEVENS, RAO:GSIMS PAO:JE-B

VZCZCNYI332

OO RUEHC RUEHCP RUEHRK RUEHSM RUEAIIA RUEAWJA

RUEKJCS RHEHNSC RUEKJCS RUEAHLR RUCNFB

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FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3117

INFO RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE 1935

RUEHRK/AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK IMMEDIATE 0595

RUEHSM/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE 2697

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

RUEAWJA/DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

RUEAHLR/HOMELAND SECURITY CENTER WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

RUCNFB/FBI WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 OSLO 001694

COPENHAGEN FOR LEGATT

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/16/2015

TAGS: MARR, PREL, PTER, PGOV, NO

SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN QUESTIONS REGARDING DETAINEE FLIGHTS

REF: A. STATE 115990 B. OSLO 842 C. OSLO 829

Classified By: DCM Christopher W. Webster, Reason 1.4 b and d.

1. (U) This is an action request -- see para 4.

2.

Page 1

B1

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B1

[redacted] an article in the leftist weekly "Ny Tid" that alleges that an aircraft with the tail number N50BH owned by Crystal Jet Aviation of Albany, New York, is operated by the USG to transport detainees and landed in Norway. [redacted]

B1

[redacted] End note).

B1

5. (U) Post has also received press inquiries and only plans to confirm that the MFA has indeed asked for information regarding possible detainee flights.

Comment

Page 2

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NotesTele (49)

B1

Translation of one of the Articles on Alleged Detainee Flight

8. (U) Norwegian News Agency (NTB) report dated November
16, 2005
(begin text of informal Embassy translation)

CIA Plane was at Gardermoen (Oslo,s main airport) for 12
hours

An American airplane that is suspected of having been on an
assignment for the CIA, and which landed at Gardermoen, was
at the airport for twelve hours.

&The plane came at 0740 and departed at 1922,8
communications director Ove Narvesen at Avinor tells NTB.

He explains that there were two passengers on board in
addition to the crew, but otherwise doesn't know anything
about the plane's stay or the purpose of the visit by the
passengers to Norway.

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On Friday, the weekly Ny Tid broke the story about the landing at Gardermoen on July 20 of this year. The plane in question is one of several that are discussed in the American media in connection with the CIA's transport of prisoners to Guantanamo Bay in Cuba and to third countries where prisoners are said to have been tortured.

The issue has come on the agenda in several European countries the past few days and is the subject of considerable attention.

The plane has the tail number N50BH8 and is owned by the company Crystal Jet Aviation based in Albany, New York. The same plane is now the subject of an investigation in Sweden, where the plane is said to have landed at several locations during recent years.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs Meeting

The (Norwegian) Foreign Ministry was reported to be meeting Wednesday afternoon with the U.S. Embassy to clarify the circumstances around the landing of the plane at Gardermoen during the summer when it allegedly was on a mission for the CIA.

We will ask about the circumstances concerning the landing, the Ministry's spokeswoman, Anne Lene Dale Sandsten, told NTB.

If it was an official flight, they should have known about it, she responded to a question as to whether the Embassy knew about the landing.

Dale Sandsten says that from the Foreign Ministry's point of view, there is no reason to believe that anything is out of order.

But there is a certain level of media interest, she added regarding the background on the meeting.

She references that earlier this year the Foreign Ministry discussed a similar case after a similar American layover at Sola in Stavanger on June 1 had been reported.

At that point the Americans explained that there had not been prisoners on board, she says.

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No Information on Passengers

Information Director Robert Haast at the Civil Air Authority explains that his office does not know who was on board the plane on July 20. According to regulations, it is possible that his office would be informed about this.

&If it is an official flight, the Civil Air Authority should be informed of who is on board. That did not happen in this case,8 Haast tells NTB.

&If a civilian company carries out an operation for the government in a country, for example transport of a head of state, information is provided to the Civil Air Authority via an application to the Foreign Ministry.8

&If a civilian air company carries out an operation for the police or intelligence service, it is evaluated on a case-by-case basis. But in most instances it would not be viewed as an official flight,8 says Haast. End translation. Visit Oslo's Classified website:

<http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/eur/oslo/index.cfm>

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